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BRIEF MENTION.

Within the memory of middle-aged men Xenophon's *Cyropaedia* was much more read than it is now. But as improved editions of the *Anabasis* multiplied, the *Cyropaedia*, on which Xenophon doubtless prided himself much more than he did on the *Anabasis*, has been crowded out of the field, and we are glad to see that Dr. HOLDEN has come to the rescue of a work in which Xenophon often appears at his best, as he seldom does in the *Anabasis*. An elaborate introduction, in which contributions have been levied on the best and most recent authorities, abundant references to Goodwin and to Hadley and Allen in the commentary, valuable comments on idiom and sphere of use, a critical appendix, and two indices, make this edition of *Xenophon's Cyropaedia, Books I, II* (Cambridge, University Press, 1887), worthy of the companionship of the *Hiero* and the *Oeconomicus* by the same editor, and we are glad to learn from the preface that these two books are only the precursors of a complete edition.

The first volume of the *Griechische Geschichte* of GEORG CURTIUS has accomplished its thirty years and reached its sixth edition (Berlin, Weidmann'sche Buchhandlung, 1887). Meantime, most of those who eagerly welcomed the new lights which Curtius brought to bear on the history of Greece and enjoyed the fresh play of color and the seductive lines of illumination have passed into darkness, and many of those who are left have lost something of their susceptibility to eloquence in history and have gained something of skepticism towards every form of brilliant phrasing. But, in spite of the severer taste and keener criticism of 1887, it is impossible for any one whose young manhood was coincident with the first appearance of Curtius' history, not to welcome this sixth edition with a hearty appreciation of all that the author has done for the study of Hellas and the Hellenes, and with an honest admiration of the loving care that has been bestowed on the revision in minute details of style as well as of statement.

With the exception of a few speeches and lectures on topics of general interest, the first volume of LUDWIG LANGE'S *Kleine Schriften* (Göttingen, Vandenhoeck u. Ruprecht, 1887) is given up to his monographs on Roman antiquities, which are intended to complement his great work on that subject, and this first volume is soon to be followed by a second. It is very much to be hoped that the collection will not limit itself to this field, and that the representatives of the unwearied and acute investigator will be encouraged to gather up his grammatical essays and reviews, many of which are of the greatest significance. Every one who knows anything about the progress of syntactical studies knows of the famous paper which Lange read before the Göttingen

Philological Assembly in 1852 ('Andeutungen über Ziel und Methode der syntaktischen Forschung'), and which we gladly welcome to the prominent place that it occupies in this volume; and his remarkable treatise on *ei* with the opt. in Homer is a syntactical classic. But his reviews are no less deserving of study than his more elaborate works, as, for instance, his valuable review of Bäumlein's *Griechische Schulgrammatik* (*Zeitschrift für die österr. Gymnasien*, 1858), and we earnestly hope that the third volume will soon be a happy certainty.

Since these words were written, the second volume of LANGE'S *Kleine Schriften aus dem Gebiete der classischen Alterthumswissenschaft* has appeared (Göttingen, Vandenhoeck u. Ruprecht, 1887). The contents pertain wholly to the sphere of Roman legal and political antiquities. No promise is held out as to the third volume, and the register to both volumes is not exactly a good omen. Still we hope that the wish just expressed will not return void, especially as the desire is shared by many scholars that whatever of Lange's grammatical work remains should be collected, both the academy memoirs and the scattered contributions to various periodicals.

A Day in Ancient Rome, being a revision of Lohr's 'Aus dem alten Rom,' by Prof. SHUMWAY (Boston, Heath & Co., 1887), has reached its fortieth thousand.

KRANER-DITTENBERGER'S *Caesar's Gallic War*, in its English attire, which it owes to MESSRS. BOND and WALPOLE (London and New York, Macmillan & Co., 1887), is much more handy than the German original. Only we are sorry to notice, in turning over the leaves of the Latin text, some bad misprints.

Dr. WILHELM VIETOR, whose excellent manuals on pronunciation have found wide acceptance, has issued the first number of a serial entitled *Phonetische Studien*, devoted to scientific and practical phonetics, with especial reference to instruction in pronunciation (Marburg, N. G. Elwert, 1887). Among his collaborators we notice the names of A. M. ELLIOTT, of the Johns Hopkins University, and W. H. HEWETT, of Cornell. Whitney's prophecy that phonetics 'will become by itself a definite science or department of study' is passing rapidly into the stage of fulfilment, to the relief of some who have vainly endeavored to combine phonetics with other philological work. And yet, as everyone has a native pronunciation of some sort, no one can withdraw from phonetics altogether, and no one escape a certain amount of irritation when his own speech is criticised by a foreigner. Imagine the wrath of certain Americans when they are coolly informed by a German that their pronunciation of *wh* as distinct from *w* is abnormal! They might stand it from Thackeray, but from Herr Max Walter in Kassel—it is too bad. Of especial interest for the classical scholar is Engel and Lohmeyer's tilt on the pronunciation of Greek, in which the latter's final thrust is in the form of a sentence which he has manufactured as a *reductio ad absurdum* illustration of the modern Greek method: *ἦν ἄμα τῇ ἡοὶ ὕη, ἡ οἶε ἡ οὐ ἡ ὕι ἡ νιέϊ σῶ τὴν χρόαν ἀβροχον διατελέσειν;*

The first volume of Dr. WILHELM BERNHARDT's *Deutsche Novellen-Bibliothek* (Boston, D. C. Heath & Co., 1887) is an attractive book externally, and the notes are suggestive. Only the renderings into idiomatic English seem here and there unnecessarily free, and of the five stories no less than four are ultra-German in their sentimentality and deal with death and the grave. A baby dies of croup, a little child falls from a precipice, a young girl succumbs to consumption, and a woman of mature beauty drops dead of heart disease. It is to be hoped that the subsequent volumes will be more cheerful, even if less national.

In a recent article contributed to the *Journal of the Exegetical Society*, Professor J. Rendel Harris maintains 'that the scene of the Ninth Similitude of Hermas is really laid in Arcadia, probably in the plain of Orchomenos.' Of what interest this thesis has for the classical scholar will appear from what follows. 'Some of the mountain scenery which he [H.] describes is capable of exact identification by means of the Itinerary of Pausanias; and he has been influenced in his architecture by the Cyclopean remains of the Peloponnesus. Either the whole, or at all events the latter part of the writings of Hermas should therefore be held of later date than the Arcadia of Pausanias. But the objection will be made that recent researches of German investigators and archaeologists have shown reason for believing Pausanias himself to be a wholesale thief and plunderer of previous guide books to Greece, so that our investigation may lead rather to the reopening of the Pausanias question than to the solution of the Hermas geography and chronology.'

DR. WAS's little book on *Plato's Symposium*, with the sub-title *Eene erotische Studie* (Arnhem, P. Gouda Quint, 1887), is a study of the conception of Eros in the Hellenic and Hellenistic periods as well as in Plato. It is written with great fervor and betrays the professional preacher by its unctuous eloquence. He puts the Platonic Eros lower than the Hellenic, than the Hellenistic Eros and all three lower than the Epic Aphrodite; and even in the purest form of Platonic paederasty he sees a sensuous satisfaction in beauty, which is repellent to his soul, as repellent as is Mephistopheles' admiration of the angels to the average reader of the second part of *Faust*. Here and there the student of the *Symposium* will find an interesting point; but the whole tract, belonging as it does to the sphere of universal ethics rather than to that of Greek literature, lacks the sympathy which is necessary to the truest insight.